

53/098

Rec'd PCT/PTO 07 APR 2005

## (12) INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION PUBLISHED UNDER THE PATENT COOPERATION TREATY (PCT)

(19) World Intellectual Property Organization International Bureau



(43) International Publication Date  
22 April 2004 (22.04.2004)

PCT

(10) International Publication Number  
WO 2004/034065 A1

(51) International Patent Classification<sup>7</sup>: G01P 3/80

(21) International Application Number: PCT/US2003/031601

(22) International Filing Date: 6 October 2003 (06.10.2003)

(25) Filing Language: English

(26) Publication Language: English

(30) Priority Data: 60/417,839 11 October 2002 (11.10.2002) US

(71) Applicant (for all designated States except US): THE TIMKEN COMPANY [US/US]; 1835 Dueber Avenue S.W., Canton, OH 44706 (US).

(72) Inventors; and

(75) Inventors/Applicants (for US only): AI, Xiaolan [US/US]; 4480 Noble Loon Street NW, Massillon, OH 44646 (US). VARONIS, Orestes, J. [US/US]; 1340 Irondale Circle NE, North Canton, OH 44720 (US). HWANG,

(74) Agent: BOOKS, Mark, E.; Polster, Lieder, Woodruff & Lucchesi, L.C., 12412 Powercourt Drive, Suite 200, St. Louis, MO 63131 (US).

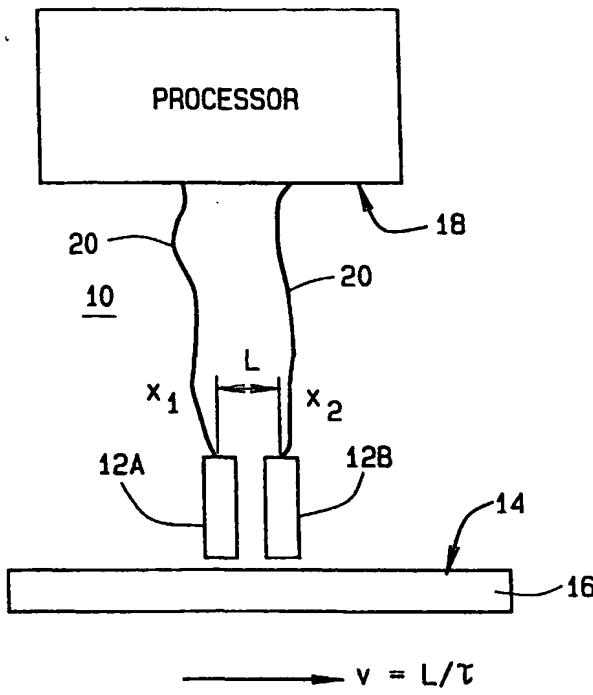
(81) Designated States (national): AE, AG, AL, AM, AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BR, BY, BZ, CA, CH, CN, CO, CR, CU, CZ, DE, DK, DM, DZ, EC, EE, EG, ES, FI, GB, GD, GE, GH, GM, HR, HU, ID, IL, IN, IS, JP, KE, KG, KP, KR, KZ, LC, LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LV, MA, MD, MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, MZ, NI, NO, NZ, OM, PG, PH, PL, PT, RO, RU, SC, SD, SE, SG, SK, SL, SY, TJ, TM, TN, TR, TT, TZ, UA, UG, US, UZ, VC, VN, YU, ZA, ZM, ZW.

(84) Designated States (regional): ARIPO patent (GH, GM, KE, LS, MW, MZ, SD, SL, SZ, TZ, UG, ZM, ZW), Eurasian patent (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, MD, RU, TJ, TM), European patent (AT, BE, BG, CH, CY, CZ, DE, DK, EE, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, HU, IE, IT, LU, MC, NL, PT, RO, SE, SI, SK, TR), OAPI patent (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, GQ, GW, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG).

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(54) Title: SPEED SENSING METHOD AND APPARATUS

$$y(\tau) = \int x_1(t+\tau) \cdot x_2(t) dt$$



(57) **Abstract:** A method and apparatus for measuring the speed of a target object passing a pair of sensor units (12) displaced apart by a predetermined distant L in the direction of motion of the target object (16). Passage of one or more features of the target object (16) past the first sensor unit (12A) results in the generation of a signal (x<sub>1</sub>), and passage of the same feature of the target object (16) past the second sensor unit (12B) results in the generate of a second signal, (x<sub>2</sub>). A signal processor (18) is configured to determine a mathematical correlation between signals (x<sub>1</sub>) and (x<sub>2</sub>), and an associated time delay (τ<sub>0</sub>). The speed (v) of the target object (16) is calculated by the signal processor (18) as the ratio of the predetermined distance (L) to the time delay (τ<sub>0</sub>).

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